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Subj: Important Press Release

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From: CopWatch

Press Release May 22, 1996

Gadsden Minutemen

To all militia personnel:

It has come to our attention that the lives of Kevin and Danny Barker may have been threatened. As you all know, the Barker brothers were the paid ATF confidential informants (CI # 62 and CI # 63) in the Starr/McCranie case.

We ask, if you hear of anyone threatening these people please call Jeff Randall immediately at (205) 570 0638. I will immediately turn this information over to the proper authorities. We do not need these people harmed in any fashion, their testimony is crucial to the case and also crucial in exposing ATF "Operation Piedmont," Piedmont is an operation run by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to implicate and coerce militiamen into manufacturing or experimenting with explosives.

FBI agent William Stewart (Atlanta) has been notified and provided with documentation on this operation. Mr Stewart is also the agent who informed Bob Starr of a possible death threat on his life, this occurred two days before Starr was arrested.

There is more government documentation on the Barker brothers and Operation

Piedmont, however, the investigators for the defense cannot release it at this time. Also, there are a couple of agents who are working with us in exposing this illegal exercise, their confidentiality cannot be compromised. We are asking that everyone suspend communications with federal law enforcement until this case is over with and all documentation is made public. If an agent contacts you, DO NOT TALK to him without a subpoena, and immediately contact me or someone else on the defense investigation. We can tell you that there are a couple of people inside the ATF and FBI that are providing good information to us, some of you may know these people, so please suspend communications with anyone in federal law enforcement until this case is resolved.

Recent, high quality surveillance photos of Kevin and Danny will be distributed shortly. These photos are being distributed for the purposes of information gathering only, so please distribute when you receive them, AGAIN, anyone who hears of any threats on these people, please contact me immediately. We must keep these people safe, it is very important to the case in Macon.

On another subject, ATTENTION ALABAMA, I was called two days ago, by a "militiamen," stating that a group in Alabama was making pipe bombs. I cannot validate this information, however, we urge everyone to steer clear of anyone talking about explosives. Operation Piedmont is not only localized in Georgia, but other states also. If you hear, talk of or see anyone dealing with any illegal equipment, DO NOT try to run your own intelligence operation, DO NOT try to apprehend these people, if you ask why, then ask Bob Starr for the reasons.

Thanks,

Jeff Randall
205 570 0638